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AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

LEGAL, ECONOMIC, AND ORGANIZATION INFORMATION COLLECTED BY THE DIVISION OF COOPERATIVE MARKETING,
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PAYMENT MADE FOR SOUTH CAROLINA COTTON

Final checks for both long and short staple cotton of the 1926 crop were sent to the members of the South Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association, Columbia, early in August. The 71,239 bales of 1926 cotton received by the association were handled in 144 pools. Pool prices for the long staple cotton varied from 12.67 cents a pound to 27.15 cents, and for the short staple from 8.1 cents to 16.86 cents. About half of the short staple cotton was sold at prices ranging between 13 and 14 cents a pound.

Selling expense for all cotton was 54 cents per 100 pounds. This amount was a deduction from the pool prices, as was also 2 per cent as a reserve to be disbursed by the board of directors after the settlement of the usual claims.

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QUEENSLAND PRODUCERS WANT COOPERATIVE COTTON GINS

Consideration is being given in Australia to the cooperative ownership and operation of the ginneries and oil mills by the cotton producers. The Queensland Producer, "the official organ of the organized farmers of Queensland," in its issue of July 6, states that "the Cotton Board (which represents the producers) has been negotiating for some time with the owners of the ginneries and oil mills" regarding terms and conditions of purchase. Furthermore, "the board has been making arrangements for the financing of the purchase." It is also stated that the board has been considering the possibilities of erecting cotton gins and oil mills.

A local cotton marketing association recently adopted resolutions favoring grower ownership and operation of gins and oil mills, which resolutions are being given considerable publicity.

The Cotton Board adopted a resolution in May advising growers generally that it favored "cooperative control of ginning and oil milling activities, and is of the opinion that the ownership of any such plant should be vested in the Cotton Board as the only constituted body representing the growers." The resolution also stressed the economy of single control, the importance of grower ownership, and the advisability of the ownership and control being on a statewide basis.

OKLAHOMA COTTON GROWERS CLOSE STORAGE POOL

Final payment to the members of the Oklahoma Cotton Growers' Association, Oklahoma City, Okla., for the cotton placed in the storage pool was made late in July. The amount distributed aggregated \$2,608,491. The net prices to growers ranged from 7.87 cents a pound to 16.38 cents. These were the prices after a deduction of 3.25 per cent from the Oklahoma price and a deduction of \$2.65 a bale for handling charges in Oklahoma. The cost of patches and freight from Oklahoma to Houston was \$4.50 a bale, this amount, however, was deducted before the Oklahoma price was determined.

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MISSISSIPPI COTTON ASSOCIATION DISTRIBUTES RESERVE

A one per cent reserve, deducted from sales of 1923-24 cotton by the Mississippi Farm Bureau Cotton Association, Jackson, in the first year of operation for working capital, has recently been returned to the members, with an increase of 8 per cent. More than \$52,000 was distributed, or nearly \$1.60 per bale for all cotton sold, and more than 9,000 members received pro rata shares of the distribution. In a letter accompanying the checks the president calls attention to the work which has been done and the changes which have been made as the result of experience, also to the fact that operating expenses have been reduced until in the past year they were but \$2 per bale, while for the coming year the board of directors has ordered a further reduction to \$1.50 per bale.

Semimonthly pools, daily pools and special pools will be conducted during the coming season in addition to the regular seasonal pool which will be operative for the accomodation of those who prefer to continue under the old contract. A new type to be known as the "new seasonal pool or pools" will also be established. All cotton delivered to the new seasonal pools when the New Orleans spot price quotations are of the same level shall constitute a separate new seasonal pool. Each of these pools is to begin with the opening of the cotton season and to close when the board of directors may decide, but not before December 15 of any year. The special pools shall open and close as the president or secretary of the association may designate. Further provision is made for any grower who desires that his cotton shall not be placed in the seasonal pools but wishes to decide later where it shall be placed. Such cotton will be called "optional cotton" and the owner will have the privilege of designating later in what pool he wishes the cotton placed, by giving due notice in writing or by telegram.

FIELD WORK BY ARKANSAS COTTON ASSOCIATION

In his first annual report the director of the field service department of the Arkansas Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association, Little Rock, reviews the achievements of the 1926-27 season. During the year all solicitors were put on a commission basis, the cost of obtaining new members was reduced \$4.56 per member, a supervisor in educational work was appointed, a field service manual issued, also a booklet entitled "The Spirit of '26," and plans made for carrying out a ten-year program. Four publications are being issued regularly by the field service department. "The Cotton Association News," containing general information regarding the association is sent to the membership. "The Service Promoter," "The Recruiter," and "The Sentinel" are special publications sent to selected groups. The Promoter is in the nature of a personal message from the director of field service to the district managers; the Recruiter is issued weekly and goes direct from the director to the field workers soliciting members, and the Sentinel is prepared to inform county superintendents of schools, Smith-Hughes teachers, home demonstration agents, county agents, secretaries of chambers of commerce, officers of banks, editors of newspapers, and others, regarding the aims and accomplishments of the association. During the year more than a thousand copies of a cooperative text book were distributed in the state. A correspondence course in cooperation is being prepared and will be made available to the field workers of the association in the near future.

The field service department has cooperated with the state extension service in conducting cooperative schools in some of the districts, and it is planned to increase the number of such schools until one is held in each county in the state.

Plans are also being developed for an educational program to reach the women of the state, particularly the wives and daughters of the members of the association, and to show them the necessity for the cooperation of their husbands and fathers in solving the problems arising out of the cotton industry. In the opinion of the director of field service "work with farm women is essential to any large substantial growth."

A metal sign has been designed for placing on the gate posts of the members. The management believes it is desirable for members to advertise their allegiance to the association, and to develop a pride of membership.

Among the plans being matured for the future is the formation of local units about some community activity. As such units become established they will be federated into county units and the county units into district units and the federation of district units will constitute the state association. Cooperative cotton gins will be the local activity in some communities. Ten years is the time allotted for the building of this proposed cooperative pyramid.

THIRTY YEARS OF CITRUS MARKETING

Since its organization in 1897, the Upland Citrus Exchange, Upland, Calif., has shipped about 7,000,000 boxes of oranges and grapefruit for which the growers have received about \$12,000,000. In the first year of operation the Exchange shipped 41 cars of fruit; the second year, 55; the third, 137; the fourth, 616. Since that time there have been wide fluctuations in the number of cars, ranging from 125 in 1912-13 to 1,263 in 1916-17. The Upland association is a local unit of the California Fruit Growers' Exchange.

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PRUNE GROWERS RECEIVE EXTRA DISTRIBUTION

Checks to the amount of \$167,572 have recently been distributed to members by the California Prune and Apricot Growers, Inc., the predecessor of the existing California Prune and Apricot Growers' Association, San Jose, Calif., as an additional final settlement on 1920 prune deliveries. This money was made available through the settlement of suits instituted against eastern dealers for purchase contracts repudiated by them during the 1920-21 season. The amount sent each grower was in proportion to the value of his prune deliveries in that year.

At a meeting of the directors of the association on June 27, it was voted to take steps to dissolve the old association, the California Prune and Apricot Growers, Inc., the existence of which had been continued to this time pending the outcome of these suits against dealers.

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PINTO BEAN GROWERS FORMING LOCAL GROUPS

Eighty-five local groups have been formed within one month by the Colorado Bean Growers' Association, Denver, and 85 local group leaders have been appointed. A contract has been made for processing the beans on the farms of members and from 10 to 15 portable graders will be brought into the state to do the work of cleaning, processing and sacking, at a flat rate of 15 cents per hundred. Enough portable graders will be brought in to do the work quickly and efficiently. They will run night and day during the rush season, if necessary. In order that the officials may make definite plans for handling the crop every member is urged to furnish promptly to his group leader an individual crop report including an estimate of the quantity of beans he will harvest this fall, about when he will be ready to deliver, and how many sacks he will require. The association proposes to furnish its members with sacks and waterproof covering to take care of the beans after they are threshed until such time as they are run through the portable grader.

MANY TELEGRAMS FOR CALIFORNIA FRUIT GROWERS

In the 1925-26 season the telegraph department of the California Fruit Growers' Exchange, Los Angeles, handled 32,211 incoming and 37,087 outgoing messages. These messages contained 1,835,507 words in code, which was equivalent to several million ordinary words. The systematic use of the telegraph in conducting the business of the Exchange began in February, 1896, following instructions from the board of directors that a detailed report on previous day's sales be sent each Wednesday by the eastern agent of the Exchange. Now the cablegram and radiogram are also used.

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REVIEW OF FOURTH YEAR OF COLORADO POTATO EXCHANGE

"There has been but little of the unusual or spectacular in the happenings of the year" reported the president of the Colorado Potato Growers' Exchange, Denver, at the fourth annual meeting, held in June. Yields averaged about normal, prices were good but not high, and there was less fluctuation in the market than the year before. A new contract, to take the place of the one which expires June 30, 1928, was approved in January. It has been well received not only by the present membership but also by outside growers.

Shipments of potatoes for the year, as reported by the manager, totalled 5,209 cars, compared with 5,660 in 1925-26. Three new warehouses were built and equipped during the year, at an expenditure of \$15,338, while improvements in other warehouses amounted to \$3,100. This brought the investments in warehouses and equipment to \$41,646 on June 1. Of this sum \$25,848 has been collected through deductions on potatoes handled by the warehouses, leaving an outstanding balance of \$15,797 to be collected in the last year of the five-year contract.

The purchase of seed potatoes is a highly important activity. In the past season 43 car loads were purchased for members at a cost of more than \$46,000. Most of this seed was certified stock. Growers are financed up to 50 per cent of the delivered cost of this seed.

Purchases of sacks, seed and twine for members are increasing year by year. The totals are as follows: 1st year, \$87,000; 2nd year, \$234,000; 3rd year, \$287,000; 4th year, \$300,000.

The membership list is also growing. On June 1 the number stood at 2,648, compared with 2,312 one year before. Two new locals were added during the year, bringing the number to 23.

A new line of work undertaken was the improvement of seed potato stocks. Two cars of tuber-indexed seed were brought into the state and planted for certification by members. Other selected stock was also planted for index work.

COLORADO ASSOCIATION SUSPENDS WHEAT POOLING

Announcement is made by the management of the Colorado Wheat Growers' Association, Denver, of the virtual discontinuance of that marketing enterprise. By action of the board of directors, all members are released from their pooling obligations and all pooling operations have been suspended. The organization is being maintained and the secretary-treasurer is handling carlot shipments of grain for growers on a consignment basis. This grain is being marketed through the Kansas City office of the Southwest Cooperative Wheat Growers' Association, the sales agency established by the wheat pools operating in Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Colorado.

The Colorado Association was incorporated September 29, 1922, and began operating at once, nearly 300 wheat growers having signed a five-year marketing contract. The association's membership increased until nearly 6,000 wheat growers were identified with the organization. The crop of 1926 was the last covered by the original five-year contract, and although a new contract running for ten years has been before the Colorado wheat growers for about a year, the support of the pooling plan has not been such as would insure delivery of a sufficient volume of the wheat to justify the maintenance of a large-scale, statewide marketing organization. In the opinion of the management of the existing organization, those wheat growers who were not members of the association enjoyed benefits from the cooperative marketing program but the members of the association had to bear the entire expense.

A provisional marketing contract is now being presented to the wheat growers by the Colorado Director of Markets. In the event that growers producing 60 per cent of the wheat of the state sign this contract, a new pooling program with "new directors, new management, and new hope" will be built up.

The activities of the association during the five years that the contract was in force are indicated by the following figures:

Marketing season	Members	Wheat received	Sales value of grain
	(Number)	(Bushels)	
1922-23	280	87,794	\$ 103,000
1923-24	2,000	1,301,666	1,227,000
1924-25	5,800	1,101,500	1,661,000
1925-26	5,800	584,473	916,000
1926-27	- - -	400,000	- - - - -

INCREASED GRAIN HANDLINGS BY MANITOBA ASSOCIATION

Reports made at the annual meeting of the Manitoba Cooperative Wheat Producers, Ltd., held at Brandon, Man., July 27 and 28, indicated that the volume of business handled by the association was the largest in its three years of activity. This farmer-owned marketing association was incorporated January 28, 1924, and began receiving wheat in the late summer of that year. Its first season it marketed 8,444,000 bushels of wheat, the second year it handled 26,201,515 bushels of wheat and coarse grains (oats, barley, flax and rye), and in the year just closed it handled 28,832,146 bushels of grain. The membership of the association has increased from about 9,000 in the fall of 1924 to 18,758 in July of 1927. The growth of this farmer-controlled marketing enterprise is well illustrated by the following figures.:

Marketing season	Members*		Grain handled		
	Number	Contracts**	Wheat (Bushels)	Coarse grains# (Bushels)	Total (Bushels)
1924-25	13,014	18,495	8,444,000	None	8,444,000
1925-26	17,578	27,537	12,472,786	13,728,729	26,201,515
1926-27	18,758	30,297	16,038,885	12,793,261	28,832,146

* As reported at annual meetings. ** There are separate contracts for wheat and coarse grains. # Oats, barley, flax and rye.

Eight country elevators were operated by the association during the 1925-26 season and 30 during the 1926-27 season. The 30 elevators handled 5,610,643 bushels of grain or an average of 187,021 bushels each. These elevators also handled 277,244 bushels of non-pool grain, in accordance with the requirements of the public licenses under which they operate. The management of the association estimates that about 60 country elevators will be operated the coming season.

The annual meeting was attended by 364 delegates representing the 18,758 members. Reports showed that only 1,005 members, including those who had died and had moved away, had dropped out of the organization since its formation. The total deduction for the operation of the association for the 1926-27 year, as reported by the auditors, was \$360,276, which was equal to about 1.25 cents a bushel. The cost of the pool for the preceding year was given as 1.27 cents a bushel.

The delegates authorized a deduction on all grain of the 1927 crop of one-twentieth of one cent a bushel for educational and publicity work. They also authorized the issuing of bonds for the more rapid acquisition of country elevators. Furthermore, they recommended that the directors should endeavor to have cooperation taught in the public schools of the province and that information regarding the association be published in languages other than English.

CHICAGO EQUITY EXCHANGE MARKETS BUTTER AND EGGS

Total sales by the Chicago Equity Union Exchange for 1926 amounted to \$1,779,332, of which \$1,678,919 was from the sale of butter and \$100,413 from the sale of eggs. Gross earnings for the year were \$29,233, and the net earnings \$8,433.

The Exchange is a sales agency for the farmer-owned creameries at Aberdeen, S. D.; Orleans, Nebr.; Lima, Ohio; and the farmers' egg marketing association at Effingham, Ill. It was formed in 1917 and its capital stock is held by the three creamery associations. Its growth during recent years is indicated by the following figures:

Year	Butter handled (Pounds)	Butter sales	Eggs handled (Cases)	Eggs sales
1922	3,336,481	\$1,130,990	2,710	- - - -
1923	3,031,974	1,259,276	- - -	- - -
1924	2,623,481	1,033,013	1,560	\$ 10,597
1926	5,354,870	1,678,918	11,183	100,413

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DAIRY MARKETING BY IOWA CREAMERY

Fifty-three members of the Littleport Farmers' Cooperative Creamery Company, Littleport, Iowa, each received checks amounting to more than \$1,000 for cream delivered during 1926. One dairyman received \$2,932 and five others received checks amounting to more than \$2,000 each. A total of \$126,383 was paid to the 120 patrons of the creamery.

The association was formed in 1912 and has made and marketed 3,778,958 pounds of butter in the 15 years of operation. Butter and buttermilk have sold for more than \$1,553,700, as will be noted by the figures below:

Years	Butter made (Pounds)	Sales of butter and buttermilk
1912 - 1916	* 177,415	* \$ 51,955
1917 - 1921	* 257,647	* 126,143
1922	337,688	130,218
1923	298,816	130,883
1924	361,657	139,895
1925	309,678	135,864
1926	295,804	126,383

*Average for five years.

MINNESOTA CREAMERY CELEBRATES TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

On June 1, 1927, the Farmers' Cooperative Creamery, Milaca, Minn. opened for business and churned 1,000 pounds of butter. A large crowd gathered to celebrate the event. On June 23, 1927, another crowd gathered to celebrate the 20th anniversary. Steady growth has marked the 20 years and the creamery is now one of the largest in Minnesota, and the largest unit of the Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc. Its output in 1926 was 1,146,610 pounds of butter, of which 90 per cent graded Land O'Lakes quality.

The volume of business transacted during the years is shown by the following table compiled by the management.

Year	Butterfat received (Pounds)	Paid producers for butterfat	Butter made (Pounds)
1909	255,994	\$ 71,160	300,756
1910	283,683	93,749	343,771
1911	368,628	97,621	438,715
1912	534,616	162,065	645,204
1913	597,433	183,310	714,750
1914	602,622	176,249	730,088
1915	606,599	173,674	755,323
1916	624,720	226,007	767,192
1917	655,635	303,323	815,265
1918	648,240	356,417	800,576
1919	713,650	471,629	886,120
1920	700,706	458,719	867,002
1921	812,164	319,930	1,010,663
1922	832,146	298,038	1,026,720
1923	790,934	354,180	991,722
1924	782,697	322,454	963,955
1925	912,710	464,803	1,135,006
1926	926,753	417,965	1,146,610

The creamery company was organized in January, 1907, with an authorized capital stock of \$5,000. Seventy-four men bought stock, paying a total of \$1,870 into the treasury. The number has now grown to more than 600. The building erected in 1907 was greatly enlarged and improved in 1920. At present the creamery is producing an average of 35,000 pounds of butter per week.

Several departments have been added during the years, and sales by the departments for 1926 were as follows: creamery, \$484,143; merchandise department, \$111,679; feed mill, \$5,577; egg department, \$49,445; poultry department, \$14,649; making a total of \$665,493.

OHIO ASSOCIATION PLANS FOR EDUCATIONAL WORK

During its first four months of operation the Fayette County Cooperative Marketing Association, Washington, C. H., Ohio, handled 3,671 cases of eggs, 20,290 pounds of poultry, 510,668 pounds of whole milk and 27,721 pounds of butterfat.

The management of the association is arranging for educational work among the members in order that the association may have high grade products to market.

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ARIZONA POULTRYMEN TO SELL "GOLD SPOT" EGGS

"Gold Spot" is the brand name chosen for its choicest eggs by the Poultry Producers of Phoenix, Arizona, which organization opened the doors of its central plant for business on July 18, 1927. Commercial flocks aggregating 130,000 hens have been signed up, with a prospect of having 50,000 more, which will give the association 75 per cent of the egg production of the Salt River Valley.

The formation of the association was preceded by much work to determine the best way to stabilize the market and compete with the branded eggs which were shipped in and commanded the best prices. The poultrymen were convinced that a high standard of quality must be maintained and that this could be done only through organization. Then the dealers were persuaded to agree to support the poultrymen and purchase their eggs from the centralized organization. Initial working capital was underwritten by six local business men who are interested in developing a prosperous agriculture in that region.

All eggs received from members will be graded and packed at the central plant at Phoenix. This plant is equipped with all the latest devices for handling eggs and keeping them at an even temperature. It is promised that eggs delivered to dealers under the "Gold Spot" label will compare favorably with the finest outside brands in uniformity of size, color, and quality.

The association will receive eggs from producers in odd lots, making it unnecessary for a producer to wait until he has a full case to send. This is designed to speed up delivery by producers and improve quality. At the Phoenix plant, eggs will be received every day in the week, and three receiving stations at Glendale, Tempe, and Mesa, will take in eggs every other day. Soiled eggs will be cleaned at the Phoenix plant.

Eggs will be marketed in weekly pools, extending from each Thursday to the following Wednesday.

A man has been selected for manager who has been in the service of one of the largest poultry associations of the country, and another experienced poultryman is in charge of the field service.

ALMOND GROWERS HAVE COOPERATED SEVENTEEN YEARS

Detailed figures regarding the activities of the California Almond Growers' Exchange, San Francisco, have been published by the management. The Exchange has completed 17 years of service. The first five-year period under a binding marketing agreement ended with the 1926-27 season, and the second five-year period begins with 1927-28. As 351 new members joined the Exchange during the 1926-27 year and only 223 growers cancelled their contracts effective at the end of the five-year period, the membership at the close of the year was larger than ever before, 3,550 members being in good standing.

Orders to the number of 4,665, from 708 cities in 47 states, Canada and Mexico, were received last year, compared with 2,089 orders from 527 cities the preceding year. The largest sale to one customer in the 1926-27 season was 500,000 pounds, compared with 225,731 pounds for the year before. Nearly 30 per cent of the orders for nuts in the shell were for lots of from 11 to 25 bags, and more than 30 per cent of all the orders were for lots of from 5 to 50 bags. Of all the orders for shelled nuts nearly 80 per cent were for lots of less than 1,000 pounds.

During the last two seasons the growers have received approximately 84 per cent of the total sales, as shown by the following figures:

Marketing season	Total deliveries (Pounds)	Total sales	Distributable proceeds	Per cent of total sales
1924-25	10,228,227	\$2,075,736	\$- - - - -	- - -
1925-26	* 9,357,652	2,204,089	1,869,317	84.8
1926-27	*21,797,922	4,213,048	3,508,982	83.3

* Including nuts in hulls and growers' meats.

The Exchange has developed its own sales outlets and broker connections. Its present sales policies and methods of distribution are based on years of experience. As a result of its prestige with the trade and with financial agencies, the management reports that it has a credit of a million dollars on its unsecured note. At the time of the annual meeting the organization was entirely free from debt.

The percentages of the total California almond crop handled through the Exchange, based on figures furnished by the organization, are as follows:

	Per cent		Per cent
1917-18	65.9	1922-23	67.6
1918-19	56.3	1923-24	67.8
1919-20	69.3	1924-25	68.2
1920-21	80.5	1925-26	69.3
1921-22	79.4	1926-27	66.5

COOPERATIVE MARKETING AND PURCHASING IN PENNSYLVANIA

Cooperative activity in Pennsylvania, as measured in dollars, increased nearly 14 per cent during 1926 as compared with 1925, according to the State Bureau of Markets. Carefully compiled figures give the total Pennsylvania cooperative business for 1925 as \$30,913,614 and the total for 1926 as \$35,177,009. These figures include only the business reported as having been transacted by Pennsylvania farmers. Seven large-scale associations operating in several states including Pennsylvania report having transacted business with Pennsylvania farmers in 1926 to the amount of \$28,876,419 and 95 local organizations report sales to the amount of \$6,300,591. The business of the seven interstate associations was 82 per cent of the total cooperative business by Pennsylvania farmers.

The cooperative business by commodities for the two years is reported by the State Bureau of Markets as follows:

Commodity	1925		1926	
	Sales	Per cent of total	Sales	Per cent of total
Milk and milk products	\$25,033,453	80.98	\$28,545,342	81.15
Fruits and vegetables	1,105,824	3.58	1,016,124	2.89
Cattle	51,500	.17	134,412	.38
Eggs	89,910	.29	96,000	.27
Wool	79,183	.25	73,832	.21
Farm supplies	4,553,744	14.73	5,311,299	15.10
Total	\$30,913,614	100.00	\$35,177,009	100.00

It will be noted by the above figures that the associations handling milk and milk products, cattle, and farm supplies, increased in relative importance during 1926, whereas the associations handling fruits and vegetables, eggs and wool, decreased in relative importance.

Sales for the associations marketing dairy products were 14 per cent greater in 1926 than in 1925. One association engaged in the marketing of fluid milk reported sales for 1926 that were 33 per cent higher than those for 1925.

Sales of the associations handling farm supplies were 16.6 per cent higher for 1926 than for 1925. Thirty-four identical local purchasing associations report sales that were one-half of one per cent greater in 1926 than in 1925.

There was a gain of 6 per cent in Pennsylvania membership of co-operatives during 1926. The total membership at the close of 1925 was 41,990 and at the close of 1926, 44,510. The largest percentage gain was made in the local associations.

COOPERATIVES IN THE NETHERLANDS

At the beginning of 1927, 3,088 cooperative societies were in operation in the Netherlands, according to a consular report from Rotterdam. In 1925 the number stood at 3,030, and in 1926 at 3,058, indicating a slow but steady increase. By far the largest number of these associations are concerned with agriculture. There are 519 cooperative dairies, 677 other agricultural cooperative societies, 786 credit associations or farmers' loan banks, and 13 associations for the insurance of cattle and horses. Other cooperative enterprises listed include, 113 associations of storekeepers and traders, 489 consumers' associations, 153 building associations, 56 insurance companies, 107 credit associations other than farmers' banks, 27 productive cooperatives, and 127 other industrial societies.

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STATISTICS FOR TWENTY CANADIAN STORES

Statistics for 20 Canadian cooperative store societies for 1926 are presented in the August number of the Canadian Cooperator. Of the 30 societies the oldest has been in operation 20½ years, and the next oldest 18 years. Two have operated 14 years; one, 13 years; two, 12 years, etc.; the youngest being 3 years old. The combined membership is 7,804; the combined share capital amounts to \$434,822 and the loan capital to \$181,608. Sales for the year aggregated \$3,358,162, which was an increase over the figures for the year 1925 of \$399,172. Nearly all the store societies paid interest on capital, ranging from 5 per cent to 10 per cent. Fourteen paid dividends on purchases, the lowest rate being 1.804 per cent, and the highest 10 per cent. Every store reported a net profit. The oldest store made the largest sales, \$1,430,975, and the youngest store the smallest sales, \$22,069. Two hundred twenty-eight persons were employed and their salaries and wages totalled \$241,434.

Lists of the merchandise handled varied somewhat for the different stores, but all except two included groceries. Dry goods, feed, flour, meat, boots and shoes, hardware, implements, twine, lumber, oil and coal, were among the other commodities mentioned. A number of the societies made livestock shipments, others handled wheat, eggs, butter, fruits and vegetables, pulp wood and railroad ties.

Figures for the distributive departments of the United Grain Growers, Ltd., Winnipeg, are given separately, showing sales to the amount of \$2,038,509. Commodities handled were binder twine, flour, feed, coal and fencing. The organization has been established 20 years and has 35,190 members and a share capital of \$2,920,620, on which an 8 per cent dividend was paid. Seven hundred fifty persons are employed.

DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION IN INDIA

Statistics regarding the cooperative movement for all India, published by the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, show that the number of cooperative societies in 1925-26 had reached a total of 80,182. Of this number the agricultural societies numbered 71,140, including 407 cattle insurance societies. There were 7,069 nonagricultural societies; 567 central organizations, including provincial and central banks and banking unions; and 1,406 supervising and guaranteeing unions, including re-insurance societies. Excluding the 407 cattle insurance societies the agricultural organizations increased in the year from 63,873 to 70,733.

Figures showing the growth of the movement in 20 years are given below:

Years	Number of societies	Number of members	Working capital (Rupees)#
1907 to 1910*	1,926	107,543	6,812,000
1911 to 1915**	11,786	548,253	54,842,000
1916 to 1920**	28,477	1,128,961	151,847,000
1920-21	47,503	1,752,904	264,293,000
1921-22	52,182	1,974,290	311,224,000
1922-23	56,136	1,613,368	353,290,000
1923-24	61,106	1,774,913	405,297,000
1924-25	71,608	2,629,830	481,929,000
1925-26	80,182	3,058,025	576,039,000

* Average for four years. ** Average for five years.

#Par value 32.4 cents.

In 1925-26 the 70,733 agricultural societies were classified as follows: 66,318 credit societies, 349 purchase and purchase and sale societies, 665 production societies, 328 production and sale societies, 681 other forms of cooperation. They had a total membership of 2,321,959 and an aggregate working capital of 2,293,000 rupees. Loans to individual members during the year amounted to 109,842,068 rupees, and to banks and societies, 6,862,086 rupees. In addition to the above there were 407 cattle insurance societies in the provinces of Madras, Bombay and Burma, with 5,940 members. Nonagricultural societies are classified on the same basis and there is a similar preponderance of credit societies.

For all India there are now 28.7 societies for each 100,000 inhabitants, and 11 members of primary societies for each 1,000 inhabitants, with a working capital of about 66 cents per head of population.

COLORADO COURT DISCUSSES ASSIGNMENTS

The Supreme Court of Colorado under date of May 31, 1927, decided the case of Austin v. Colorado Dairymen's Association, 256 P. 640.

The Colorado Dairymen's Association is a corporation formed under the cooperative marketing act of Colorado. One of the provisions of the association's contract with its members is that 5 per cent of the price of all milk sold by its members shall be paid by the purchaser to the association instead of to the producer. R. H. Austin, the plaintiff in error, is a milk dealer and bought milk of members of the association. The contracts contained assignments of the purchase price from the sellers to the association, but plaintiff in error refused to pay it to the association. Suit was then brought by the association for the whole purchase price. The court gave judgment for but 5 per cent thereof on the ground that the president of the association had given Austin leave to pay all but that ratio to the producers and he had done so.

The plaintiff in error claimed that the assignments were invalid without the consent of the debtor because they were partial, under the familiar rule as to partial assignments of choses in action. The court said the answer to that contention is that the assignments were not partial but full and pointed out that the fact that consent was afterward given to pay part to the producers would not make the assignments partial, nor amount to a consent that the whole should be paid to the sellers.

It was objected that the court below ordered an accounting against Austin who was not a member of the association, but the Supreme Court of Colorado stated that an accounting if necessary would be granted a seller and therefore must be granted to his assignee, and indicated that an accounting was necessary to reveal how much milk plaintiff in error had bought from members of the association.

In behalf of plaintiff in error it was contended that the cooperative contract was against public policy and unconstitutional. The court said if that were so it was of no concern here since an assignment of a chose in action is neither against public policy nor unconstitutional. Whether other parts of the contract are open to these objections was considered irrelevant.

The judgment of the lower court was affirmed.

H. M. Bain.

COOPERATIVE MARKETING SCHOOL IN OKLAHOMA

Three days of the Farmers' Week program at the Oklahoma A. & M. College, Stillwater, beginning August 2, were devoted to the Third Annual Cooperative Marketing School. One feature of the first day's program was an address on "The possibilities for saving through livestock shipping associations," by a representative of the Division of Cooperative Marketing, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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COURSE IN ELEVATOR MANAGEMENT OFFERED IN MINNESOTA

A course in local grain elevator management is offered by the School of Agriculture of the University of Minnesota. This is a three-year course of six months duration each year, and is designed chiefly to train young men for the local grain business, thereby giving them an opportunity in a field where their farm experience will be of value. Requirements for entrance are few and simple and the course is comprehensive, covering every important phase of the management of local elevators, including accounting, commercial law, economics and marketing, for handling the business aspects of an elevator; also practice in grading and handling grain, involving an understanding of all the mechanical devices and equipment of an elevator. In addition there will be instruction in feeds and feeding, farm machinery, and judging livestock, to prepare men to handle the chief side lines of the elevator business. Students will also receive training in public speaking and parliamentary law, in order that they may be able to conduct meetings and act as farm advisors.

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TEXAS WOMEN STUDY COOPERATION IN WESTERN STATES

Twenty-six leaders among the women of agricultural Texas recently spent 18 days in visiting and studying the cooperative enterprises at points in Colorado, Utah, California, and New Mexico. These women were from all parts of Texas and were outstanding leaders in their various counties and districts. The tour was made under the leadership of the educational director of the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association and was for the purpose of obtaining first-hand information regarding the significance and possibilities of cooperative marketing as a factor in the evolution and development of rural life.

Stops were made by the party at Colorado Springs, Salt Lake City, Sacramento, Petaluma, San Francisco, San Jose, Fresno, Los Angeles, Orange, El Paso and College Station, Texas. Among the products handled by the cooperative associations studied were, beans, beets, wheat, alfalfa, plums, raisins, oranges, lemons, potatoes, milk, butter, almonds, peaches, prunes, walnuts, pears, figs, apricots, eggs, and poultry.

REPORTED BY THE ASSOCIATIONS

With its September issue, the Canadian Cooperator, Brantford, Ont., will have completed its eighteenth year. This publication is one of the oldest cooperative journals in this part of the world. The same editor has served throughout its entire existence.

The marketing contract of the Alberta Cooperative Wheat Producers' Association, Ltd., Calgary, Canada, is to be printed in French and Ukrainian as well as English, since many of the members of that association are unable to read English.

Forty-one attorneys, including two from Canada, are members of the Association of Cooperative Marketing Attorneys which recently held its second annual meeting in Chicago. At the Chicago meeting it was decided to hold semiannual meetings hereafter.

Announcement has been made that the Canadian Cooperative Wheat Producers, Ltd., the sales agency for the three wheat pools of the prairie provinces of Canada, has taken over an elevator at Vancouver, B. C., with a capacity of 1,625,000 bushels. This elevator will be used largely in connection with exporting Alberta wheat.

Six milk-receiving plants are being established in Clinton and Essex Counties in the Champlain Valley of New York, by the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association, Inc., New York City. Thirty-five car loads of building material and milk handling equipment are being forwarded to the valley. Of these, 18 car loads are from New York State, 6 from Maine, 6 from Alabama, 2 from Maryland, and one each from other states.

Advices from Michigan state that the Michigan wool pool is expected to total about 225,000 pounds, which is somewhat less than was anticipated. Several reasons are given. Growers report that their clip is from 15 to 20 per cent lighter than last year, due either to the mild winter or to poor feed; a very large number of feeders sold their lambs before shearing; and a large number of growers who usually pool their wool were forced to sell early for financial reasons.

The final creditors' meeting of the bankruptcy proceedings of the Illinois-Missouri Cooperative Milk Producers' Association, was held at East St. Louis, Ill., August 5, 1927. The notice of the referee in bankruptcy stated that the trustee had collected \$12,583 and that the expenses amounted to \$1,669. Notice was further given that stock subscription notes aggregating \$26,417 would be offered for sale. Claims amounting to more than \$90,000 have been filed, while creditors with claims of more than \$40,000 have never filed them. The claims are largely by farmers who sent milk to the association.

• SPECIAL NOTICE TO READERS OF THIS CIRCULAR

As the rapidly increasing circulation of Agricultural Cooperation is taxing the facilities available for its prompt issuance, readers who have no special use for this type of information are requested to notify the editor, in order that their names may be removed from the mailing list.

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STUDY OF COTTON-GIN INDUSTRY PUBLISHED

"Practices and Costs of Cotton-Gin Operation in North-Central Texas, 1924-25," are analyzed in Technical Bulletin No. 13 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, just off the press. The study was undertaken to ascertain the economic condition of the ginning industry. Information was collected at first hand regarding the kind and quality of service rendered, and analyzed to determine the factors influencing efficiency in gin operation. Seventy-four gins were visited and detailed information collected regarding each phase of the work of these enterprises. A careful analysis for the different departments made it possible to draw general conclusions as to the profitableness of each. Many charts and tables are introduced in the text. Copies may be procured from the Division of Cooperative Marketing, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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COOPERATIVE PUBLICATIONS USED IN SOUTH DAKOTA COLLEGE

House organs of cooperative associations, as well as other publications, are being used regularly in one of the courses in economics at the South Dakota College of Agriculture. Each member of a class of 18 is given one or more of the leading publications dealing with marketing or cooperation to report upon. For instance, one student receives the Western Producer, Saskatoon, to review and report upon regularly; another is given the Dairymen's League News, the Land O'Lakes News, and other publications; another student is asked to present to the class the economic news found in the National Livestock Producer, the Cooperative Shipper, etc.; another covers the Diamond Walnut News and similar publications issued by associations marketing nuts; and so on for the class of 18.

Meetings are held two evenings a week at which time the economic information collected from the various sources is considered by the entire group.

SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES

- Alberta Wheat Pool Rally. Calgary, Alberta. Alberta Cooperative Wheat Producers, Ltd., 1927. 46 p.
- Brinton, J. W. The Nebraska Cooperative Wheat Pool. How Grain is Contracted, Handled, Sold and Paid For. Nebraska Farmer, Lincoln, Nebr., July 16, 1927, p. 4.
- Cooperative Buying of Gasoline and Motor Oils. Monthly Labor Review, Washington, D. C., July 1927, p. 66.
- Denman, C. B. How 280,000 Stockmen Go to Market. Capper's Farmer, Topeka, Kans., August, 1927, p. 8.
- Johnson, E. C. Local Livestock Auctions. Farm Journal, Philadelphia, August, 1927, p. 16.
- Knox, J. S. Cotton Co-ops Are Less Expensive. Progressive Farmer, Memphis, Tenn., July 2, 1927, p. 14.
- The Largest Farmers' "Co-op" in the World. Commerce and Finance, New York City, August 3, 1927, p. 1542.
- Lever, A. F. Would It Do All They Say? Or Would the McNary Bill Kill Cooperation? Country Gentleman, Philadelphia, August, 1927, p. 13.
- Miller, John D. Teamwork Within Agriculture Itself. Dairyman's League News, New York City, August 5, 1927, p. 14.
- Mumford, H. W. The Hopes of the Committee of Fifteen, as Recalled by the Secretary. National Livestock Producer, Chicago, August 1927, p. 3.
- Montgomery, J. S. Direct Selling by Cooperative Shipping Associations. Cooperative Shipper, South St. Paul, Minn., July, 1927, p. 1.
- The Nebraska Wheat Pool. Editorial. Nebraska Farmer, Lincoln, Nebr., July 16, 1927, p. 6.
- Nelson, Milton C. Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers: Sheep Industry of California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho not Well Organized for Cooperative Wool Selling. Commercial West, Minneapolis, Minn., July 23, 1927, p. 43.
- Sniffen, C. E. Getting Facts for the Management of Cooperative Associations. Dairyman's League News, August 5, 1927, p. 2.

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